AP US History

Chapter 27 – America and the World, 1921-1945

The second great war of the twentieth century had a lasting impact on American life. For the first time, the nation’s military potential had been reached. In 1945, the United States was unquestionably the strongest country on the earth. The legacy of the war was equally strong at home. The war brought about industrial recovery and unparalleled prosperity, while big government and huge deficits had now become the norm as economic control passed to the federal government. Additionally, the war led to far-reaching changes in American society that would become apparent only decades later.

**Retreat, Rehearsal, and Rivalry**

1. Inference – In what way did the Kellogg-Briand Pact illustrate American isolationism from 1921 until World War II?
2. How did American tariffs, including the Hawley-Smoot Tariff (1930), hurt American-European financial affairs?
3. How did the Good Neighbor policy reflect Latin American/American relations in the 1920’s and 30’s?
4. Describe Japanese-American relations in the 1920’s and 30’s. What was the primary focus of their rivalry? What was Japan’s ultimate transgression that was met with little American resistance?

**Isolationism**

1. What two factors were responsible for American isolationism in the 1930’s?
2. Describe the events occurring in the following three countries, ultimately leading to the alliance of the Axis Powers.
   1. Germany
   2. Italy
   3. Japan
3. Identify the purpose of the creation of the three neutrality acts.
   1. 1935
   2. 1936
   3. 1937
4. As war in Europe approached, President Roosevelt began to push for a lessening of the isolationist policies. Please provide two examples of Roosevelt appealing to revise the neutrality acts.
5. Describe the deal FDR made in September of 1940 with the British that he called “the most important action in the enforcement of our national defense that has been taken since the Louisiana Purchase.”
6. American sentiment for war differed following FDR’s actions with England. Please describe the stances of the following groups/ideas.

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| “Fortress America” | The White Committee |
|  |  |

1. FDR took his boldest step by ensuring that the United States would become “the great arsenal of democracy.” Elaborate on the makings and significance of the Lend-Lease Act.
2. Describe the United States economic measures that attempted to halt Japanese aggression in Asia.
3. Please list the reasons why the United States entered into World War II against the following countries.
   1. Japan
   2. Germany/Italy

**Turning the Tide**

1. Describe United States relations with the following members of the United Nations coalition.
   1. Britain
   2. China
   3. France
   4. Soviet Union
2. Identify the significance of the following:
   1. Dwight D. Eisenhower
   2. North Africa
   3. George Patton
   4. Stalingrad
3. Identify the significance of the following:
   1. Island-Hopping
   2. Douglas MacArthur
   3. Battle of Midway

**The Home Front**

1. Describe the economic benefits of World War II.
2. How did rising incomes during WWII ensure postwar prosperity for workers and farmers?
3. Describe the war’s effect on the following groups at home:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Women |  |
| African-Americans |  |
| Mexican-Americans |  |

1. The Japanese population of the United States was placed in internment camps during WWII following the attack on Pearl Harbor. Identify the following terms that are linked to this action.
   1. Nisei
   2. 442nd Combat Team
   3. Indemnity

**Victory**

1. Identify D-Day.
2. How did the Yalta Conference reflect a change in American thought regarding foreign policy?
3. What were the three possibilities for the United States to settle their war with Japan?
4. What was Truman’s primary motive in dropping the atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki?